

BOGUS FRENCH DUKE SENT TO JAIL.

Charles J. Francois Bought Automobile With Forged Check and Dealer Prosecutes.

SENTENCED FOR 18 MONTHS.

He Claimed to Be the Prince De Nevers Until Real Count Appeared in Court.

SPECIAL BY CABLE TO THE NEW YORK HERALD AND THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC. London, Oct. 31.—The social career of a pretended Duke has cut short when at Clerkenwell Sessions he was sent to prison for eighteen months.

The recital of his strange, eventful history kept the Court keenly interested. It is, indeed, a romance in the fine art of deception.

In his time—he is 41 years of age—the "Duke" has played many parts. He has passed as a Doctor of Science, as the "Count General of France," stationed at Liverpool, and as a member of various engineering institutions.

But perhaps his most ambitious flight was when he telegraphed to a young lady: "Ordered to Marleneburg to see the King, and then Constantinople."

His real name was given as Charles J. Francois, a Frenchman. He made a smart appearance as he stepped into the dock and listened attentively to his own biography as told by a detective.

His appearance in court was due to his desire to possess a motor car. He went to a motor car dealer in Bloomsbury and introduced himself as the "Duc de Nevers." His visiting card read: "H. G., the Duc Charles de Nevers, Newry, County Down, Ireland," and also bore a West End address.

A COUNT'S EVIDENCE. After informing the dealer that his father was the "Prince Oscar de Nevers," who lived in Paris, he proceeded to enter into negotiations for the purchase of a car for £180. He experimented with it in the neighboring streets, and then tendered a check in payment. The next day he engaged a chauffeur and took the car away, only to meet with an accident which damaged the vehicle.

To accentuate his misfortune, the dealer found that his statements had been false, his check was not met, and a charge of fraud brought him into the hands of the police.

In order to clear the air regarding his claim to be the "Duc de Nevers," the prosecution first called Oscar, Count de Nevers, of Brunswick, a high-ranking nobleman, who said that he was a rubber manufacturer, he belonged to an old French family, which left their country at the time of the revolution, and dated back to the tenth century. The witness alone was entitled to call himself "Count de Nevers," and there had never been a Prince de Nevers (the prisoner had said that the "Prince de Nevers" in the family). They had, the Count added, with a humorous twinkle, never risen to that. After this witness had stepped down Detective Sergeant Scholes went into the particulars of the pretended Duke's career. It appeared that he came to this country in March, 1902, and obtained a situation as a draftsman. He had, he said, been in the employ of Mr. Pierpont Morgan in New York. A month later he told his employers that his father had died and that consequently he became the "Duc de Nevers." To substantiate this he borrowed £20 in order to go to Paris. The amount is still owing.

In October, 1902, he was engaged as manager of an iron works in Manchester, and in March he was sent to London to supervise the erection of a bridge over the river at Newry, Ireland. He was allowed to open a bank account, and charged wages for thirteen more men than he engaged, and was subsequently arrested for fraud. He was held over as a first offender. It was about this time that the "Duke" drew a check for the "Duchess."

CURIOUS MARRIAGE CONTRACT. The most romantic period of his existence, however, was when he met a young lady, aged 17. He generally proposed to endow her with £5,000, and produced the following typewritten document to prove his bona fides:

(a) Miss — of Carlton Terrace West, by his Grace the Duke of Nevers, Prince of Jolville, His Grace intending to marry Miss — and desiring this young lady to be independent of her parents, agrees to deposit in her name a sum of £5,000, provided the following conditions shall be agreed to:

(b) Miss — will leave her present unsuitable employment.

(c) Miss — will herself invest this money in British Government bonds.

(d) The interest on this investment at six per cent will be collected by Miss — only and will be used to provide her comfort.

(e) In the case of the Duke of Nevers breaking this engagement, the £5,000 will be returned to the entire property of Miss —, breaking this engagement.

(f) In the case of Miss —, breaking this engagement, the money will return to the Duke of Nevers.

(g) Miss — will pay her board at her home and there will be no consideration for her people as an ordinary boarder, and she must be expected from her.

(h) Miss — will take lessons to fit her for the position she will shortly occupy in the future.

(i) All the above conditions are to show the good faith of the Duke of Nevers and must be accepted by Miss —.

When he drew up this document, the prisoner's "eccentricity of conduct" was due to a sword cut across the back received by him when fighting with the French Army in Madagascar, after previous service in China. He is a student of the St. Louis School of Engineering in France.

IRISHMEN TO CELEBRATE MANCHESTER ANNIVERSARY.

Programme of Meeting at the Odéon Includes Addresses by Colonel Blake and Frank Walsh.

The anniversary of the Manchester Martyrs will be celebrated November 23 at the Odéon, Grand and Finney avenues. The celebration will be under the auspices of the United Irish League. There will be an attractive musical and literary programme, which the committee in charge of the arrangements is preparing. Addresses will be delivered by Colonel J. F. Y. Blake, commander of the Irish Brigade in the Boer War, and Frank P. Walsh of Kansas City.

Colonel Blake is a native Missourian, having been born in this state in 1864. He is a graduate of West Point, and served with distinction under Generals Wilcox, Crooks and Miles in the United States Cavalry. He commanded the Apache Indian Scouts in Arizona and the Navajo Scouts in New Mexico.

He resigned his commission in 1898 and emigrated to South Africa, and on the breaking out of the Boer War was made commander of a brigade in the Boer Army.

His command was largely composed of Irishmen, and took an active and conspicuous part in the battles of Paardeburg, Magersfontein, Colenso and Modderfontein and other historical events of the war.

Frank Walsh will deal with the tragedy of Manchester and the position of the Irish cause to-day.

The National Committee of the League has issued an address to the branches of the organization in different parts of the country, calling upon all Irishmen to assist in creating a sentiment favorable to Ireland's claims for home rule, and an address is also being issued by the national directory in Ireland for the same purpose.

Van Orden Corsets.



Trying On the First Corset Illustrates Three Generations Wearing La Greque Corsets.

LA GREQUE is the only Corset that supports the spine at the waist line, allowing freedom instead of applying pressure in front, removing the cause, which is the only permanent cure for ungainly lines.

LA GREQUE is not bias-gored. It is built for permanency. Every line and curve is correct and will retain its shape. The slender figure gains an added roundness and the stout figure is lengthened into shapeliness. You cannot wear correct model of LA GREQUE Corsets without a distinct improvement in figure, poise and health. We recommend LA GREQUE as the Corset of to-day, the best medium over which to fit and wear a stylish costume. Full line of models in our Corset Room, 24 floor. Prices \$1.50 to \$18.00. Special attention given to fittings.

Men's Knit Underwear

From Great New York Bankrupt Stock.

Men's Extra Heavy Fleece Lined, Silk Fin-

ished Shirts or Drawers, sizes up to 46—

worth 85c—Sale Price..... 39c

Men's Very Heavy Wool Fleece Lined Shirts

or Drawers, all sizes up to 48—worth \$1.25—

Sale Price..... 75c

Men's Heavy All-Wool Natural Gray or

Camel's Hair Shirts or Drawers, sizes up to

50—worth \$1.50—Sale Price..... \$1.00

Men's Heavy Camel's Hair and Blue Wool

Socks, all sizes—worth 25c—

Sale Price..... 12½c

Men's Very Fine All-Wool Camel's Hair and

Black English Cashmere Socks, worth

35c—Sale Price..... 19c

AMERICAN SCIENTISTS' MEETING HERE NEXT MONTH PROMISES TO BE OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE.



EDWARD H. KISER, PH.D., Secretary St. Louis Chemical Society. Member of the chemical section.

WILLIAM TRELEASE, President American Society of Naturalists, chairman of Executive Committee of the association.

CALVIN M. WOODWARD, PH.D., Dean of Washington University Engineering School. Member of the mathematical section.

FRANCIS E. NIPPER, A.M., Vice president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Member of the physical section.

The most important conference, from a scientific standpoint, that is held in the United States yearly has selected St. Louis for its meeting place this year. The American Association for the Advancement of Science, whose membership list numbers men who are at the head of their respective departments in scientific research, will meet in the High School building during the week beginning December 22.

The sessions of this body will be surpassed in interest only by the conferences of the scientists of the world, which will be held during the World's Fair, when leaders of thought in every country will read papers dealing with subjects of great scientific moment.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science is unique in that it is the only one which covers the entire field in every department. It has a membership of more than 4,000, including in the list every one in the country who has made researches into the abstruse fields of theory, as well as those who have put the theories into practice for the advancement of mankind.

Founded more than fifty years ago, it has grown steadily, and to-day its meetings are of international import, and the printed record of its proceedings at the last meeting will be scattered over the entire world. It takes in not only the sciences, such as physics, chemistry, astronomy, geology, and the mechanical and electrical engineering, while its medical membership list contains the names of leaders in the healing art.

LABOR PROBLEM. A field of practical import at present is that of social and economic science. Dealing as these subjects do with questions affecting labor and the condition of the worker, questions that are of everyday importance, the sessions of the sections having to do with these subjects will be of interest to many citizens.

The president of the society for the St. Louis meeting will be Carroll D. Wright, United States Commissioner of Labor. He was intimately concerned in the settlement of the anthracite coal strike, as a member of the commission. He is president of Clark University, Worcester, Mass.

Many St. Louis men are members of the association. Most of the more widely known of these in the world of science also stand high in educational circles. Among these is William Trelease, known throughout the world for his masterly work in botanical investigation and researches in botany. He is also the president of the American Society of Naturalists, and his work on many mooted points in subjects connected with the whole field of natural history is taken as final.

Among the St. Louis members is Calvin M. Woodward, dean of the engineering department of Washington University and president of the Society for the Advancement of Engineering Education. He is a mathematician of national reputation.

Francis E. Nipper is a member of the physical section who has written several papers dealing with purely scientific phases of physical research. He is a director of the Magnetic Survey of Missouri and has acted for some years as vice president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

CHEMISTS TO GATHER. During the same week that the association is in session, the annual convention of the American Chemical Society will be held, probably also in the High School building. Details for this meeting are being arranged by Doctor Edward H. Kiser, secretary of the American Chemical Society.

The American Chemical Society embraces all chemists in the United States of prominence in research work. Most of its members are also enrolled in the association. During the convention, chemists from St. Louis will make excursions to the works of various manufacturers, whose presses are founded on chemical reactions. Metallurgical and kindred plants will also be inspected by the visiting chemists.

The association includes sections on mathematics and astronomy, physics, chemistry, mechanical science and engineering, geology and geography, zoology, botany and anthropology, social and economic science, physiology and experimental medicine, and attracts to its annual meetings many of the leaders in scientific thought of the country.

The membership is not confined to the strictly professional scientific man. It is divided into two classes—that of fellows and that of members. The fellows comprise those whose scientific work of importance, and a large class of persons who are either amateurs in science or who, from an interest in scientific matters or from a desire to ally themselves to and assist in the advancement of science, have joined the ranks.

ASSOCIATION'S OFFICERS. Officers of the St. Louis meeting: President, Carroll D. Wright, Commissioner of Labor, Washington, D.C.

CHAIRMAN OF SECTIONS. A—Mathematics and Astronomy, O. H. Tittmann, Coast and Geodetic Survey, Washington, D.C.

B—Physics, J. H. Hall, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

C—Chemistry, W. D. Bancroft, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.

D—Mechanical Science and Engineering, C. L. Woodward, Washington University, St. Louis.

E—Geology and Geography, J. C. Russell, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

F—Zoology, E. W. Leach, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

G—Botany, T. H. MacGillivray, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.

H—Anthropology, M. H. Saville, American Museum of Natural History, New York, N.Y.

I—Social and Economic Science, J. F. Cramwell, Bureau of Statistics, Washington, D.C.

K—Physiology and Experimental Medicine, R. B. Woodworth, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

PERMANENT SECRETARY, L. O. Howard, Cosmos Club, Washington, D.C.

GENERAL SECRETARY, Ch. W. Bailey, Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, Washington, D.C.

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